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Bail Refused for 'Stealth' Spy Suspect

By BILL FARR, Times Staff Writer

A federal magistrate in Los Angeles refused to set bail Friday for Thomas Patrick Cavanagh after describing the Northrop engineer accused of trying to sell crucial secrets about the "stealth" bomber as "a threat not only to this community but the country as a whole."

U.S. Magistrate Joseph Reichmann rejected the 40-year-old Cavanagh's request to be released—despite the offer by his mother, estranged wife and girlfriend to all put up their homes as security for a bail bond.

Cavanagh was portrayed by defense attorney Dennis Landine as a man who would be a good bail risk because of his close family ties. But Assistant U.S. Atty. Percy Anderson argued that he could imagine no conditions under which Cavanagh could be freed.

"This is a man who was willing to sell out his country," Anderson said, "and he has every incentive to flee this jurisdiction." The prosecutor said there remained a danger that Cavanagh had still other information that he might try to sell to a foreign country if he were freed pending his trial.

Cavanagh was arrested Tuesday after allegedly trying to sell information to FBI agents posing as Soviet spies. He reportedly received \$25,000 for turning over documents on the super-secret stealth bomber program.

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